

THE MIGHTY PEN,

Continued from 11th page.

Have we not a right to expect and even demand that what one presents to us as his own or her own. Composition should have passed through some digestive process in his or her own mind?

To self appropriate the productions of another impart or in the absolute is equivalent to stealing the author and the act deserves no softer term than stealing. When a person, it matters not what position he or she may occupy declines an address stolen from another it is equivalent to refusing to receive stolen goods.

From the bench, platform and pulpit particularly come effusions of other men's brains; perhaps not.

"Verbatim et literatim," but so deceptively interwoven with the sparse self produced as to entirely deceive the unsuspecting, enthusiastic, intelligent audience, or the deeply conservative and thoughtful who thread only the line of thought and punctuate the ideas in the address or sermon.

Thousands and even millions of dollars in cash, to say nothing of the immense quantity of material of every description, of property and sometimes a whole province or country are annually stolen through the use of the "Steel of Pen."

Treasuries have been depleted, banks wrecked, wealthy corporations destroyed, and the ruin of many hundreds of thousands of suicides and criminals may be traced to acts committed for the two pronged steel.

Abuse, slander, misrepresentation are listed in the long catalogue of the evil purposes to which it has been put, stealing any good name, peace, happiness and even life itself, blighting reputation, maligning and darkening character, filling the world with woes and the human heart with sorrow wrecking happy homes and distracting endearing relations.

Grand thoughts some of which have wrought emancipations, reformations, revolutions in art, science, invention, theology and ethics; wonderful results in philanthropy and government flowed from from a point of steel.

It has proved the important aid in the procurement of superior forms and practices of society, refinement and culture, the dignifying of manhood and the gracing of womanhood.

Dictated by experiment, speculation and supposition it records the measurement of the heavens and courses of nature, directs the hand of analysis, the eye of discovery, the genius of art and pioneers the way to a higher civilization.

As a comparison it is the initial friend of the business man, author, statesman, professor and pulpiteer and the boon of every household.

It is a great conveyor of secrets in all lines of life, loading thousands of ships and railroad trains with its thousands of tons of secret messages daily to all parts of the world—the cheapest but most effective instrument. The saying is very true that, "The pen is greater than the sword."

Could all the old steel pens come together in convention and rehearse their actions, what an interesting revelation it would be and what a long time would be required for one after another to disclose his story, and how many people dead and living would become milted in reputation and character, while many others would be vindicated. While writing this paper how many of these harmless looking little instruments are penning mischief.

J. HARVEY ANDERSON,

Binghamton, N. Y.

For a State Normal School.

Hon. Ferdinand U. Latrobe has introduced a bill in the Maryland legislature to establish, equip, and maintain a state normal school for the training of colored people and asking for an appropriation of \$50,000. The school, the bill says, is to be located within the city of Baltimore, the site to be selected by the state board of education, and the school shall be under the state board, which shall appoint the principal at a salary of \$2,000 a year, who in turn is given the power to appoint his assistants, equal to those paid white teachers in similar positions.

Terence V. Powderly.

T. V. Powderly, commissioner-general of immigration is said to be a great friend to colored people. When president of the K. of L. organization, he did all in his power to break the color prejudice which exists in that body. He nearly succeeded; for while he was president, colored mechanics in many quarters had equal show with the whites. His decided stand for colored men's rights in that organization made for him many enemies and is said to have caused him to loose the presidency of that organization. Mr. Sovereign, who succeeded Mr. Powderly, does not seem to have any uncontrollable desire to advance the black man's interests industrially. The colored man should strive to keep his friends in power.

Mrs. M. E. Anderson of 160 L street, northwest, has returned to her home after a lengthy stay in Newark, N. J. and there to Philadelphia, Pa., and there remained for sometime. Mrs. Anderson reports that she spent a real pleasant time while away. Her many friends welcome her back to this city.

An Enjoyable Affair.

Miss Lizzie Ward, of 1418 Madison Avenue, gave a most delightful supper to ten friends last Sunday evening, in honor of Messrs Handy and Smith, of the Crescent Club, Baltimore. The table was tastefully arranged, the supper beyond comparison, and the guests in rare good humor. The bill of fare which ran from oysters on the half shell to cafe noir, with "Robert Burns" Perfectos for the gentlemen was discussed for nearly two hours. The guests of honor left on the midnight train for Baltimore. The hostess was ably assisted by Mrs. Florence Kemp.

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